

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 109925

O R 121418Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7177
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04187

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, TECH, PK, GW

SUBJECT: PAKISTANI NUCLEAR FACILITIES

REFS: A. STATE 059654; B. STATE 038095; C. BONN 02879

1. SUMMARY: SINCE FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER IS COMPLETELY OCCUPIED TODAY WITH THE BUNDES RAT PROCEEDINGS ON THE POLISH AGREEMENT AND THEIR AFTERMATH, AND WILL BE ENGAGING IN OTHER POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OVER THE WEEKEND, I SAW STATE SECRETARY HERMES OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TODAY TO DELIVER THE SECRETARY'S LETTER AND TO MAKE THE ORAL POINTS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH TWO OF REF A. HERMES SAID HE WOULD BRING THE LETTER AND MY COMMENTS TO GENSCHER'S ATTENTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE EXPLAINED FRG VIEWS OF ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER SUPPLIERS' GUIDELINES AND WONDERED WHETHER SECRETARY'S LETTER MIGHT NOT CAUSE SOME STATES TO QUESTION WHETHER USG STILL CONSIDERED GUIDELINES AN ADEQUATE REFLECTION OF THE EXPLICIT OBLIGATIONS OF SUPPLIER STATES. I DENIED THAT US ACTION WAS INTENDED TO WEAKEN SUPPLIERS' CONSENSUS, EMPHASIZED SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH USG VIEWS PROLIFERATION PROBLEM AND DISCUSSED THE PAKISTAN CASE

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AS A CONCRETE EXAMPLE OF THE NEED FOR RESTRAINT IN THE

EXPORT OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES. HERMES
REMAINED NONCOMMittal. END SUMMARY.

2. AFTER MY PRESENTATION OF SUBSTANCE PARAS 2 AND 3, REF A, DURING WHICH I GAVE HIM A COPY OF THE SECRETARY'S MARCH 9 TESTIMONY, HERMES REMARKED THAT THE FRG HAD RECEIVED SOME ATTENTION IN THE HEARINGS AS A NUCLEAR EXPORTING STATE WHICH SHOULD BE PRESSURED BY USG. HERMES APPRECIATED THE SECRETARY'S RESPONSE ON THIS POINT. HERMES FELT THAT THESE HEARINGS HAD GIVEN TOO LITTLE ATTENTION TO AN IMPORTANT POINT, I.E. THAT THE SUPPLIER STATES HAVE UNILATERALLY IMPLEMENTED GUIDELINES WHICH ARE EXPRESSION OF COMMON POLICY. FRG HAS ACCEPTED THESE OBLIGATIONS AND WILL ABIDE BY THESE PROCEDURES. FRG HAD CONSULTED USG AS REQUIRED AND WAS EVEN PREPARED TO GO BEYOND GUIDELINES REQUIREMENT AND SEEK A TRILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH PAKISTAN AND THE IAEA. HERMES ASKED ME TO REPORT THESE VIEWS AND TO ASK: "IF THESE GUIDELINES PROCEDURES ARE NOT RELEVANT, WHAT SIGNIFICANCE DO THEY HAVE?"

3. HERMES CONTINUED THAT THE SECRETARY'S LETTER IDENTIFIED ONE CASE AS PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS BUT DID NOT ASK THE FRG TO REFRAIN FROM THE SALE. I RESPONDED THAT US WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE PLEASED IF FRG, AFTER REVIEWING THE SITUATION AS THE SECRETARY REQUESTED, DID CONCLUDE THAT THE TRANSACTION WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE. HERMES BELIEVED THAT THE SECRETARY'S LETTER, TOGETHER WITH THE HEARINGS, SHOULD BE VIEWED AS A RESPONSE TO

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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 04187

EXDIS

PRESSURE ON THE ADMINISTRATION. I DENIED THIS AND RE-EMPHASIZED THE SERIOUS CONCERN WITH WHICH USG VIEWS TRANSFERS OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT TO SENSITIVE COUNTRIES WITHOUT ECONOMIC NEED FOR THESE FACILITIES. I ASSUMED THAT THE FRG SHARED OUR POLITICAL ASSESSMENT OF PAKISTAN MOTIVATIONS AND THE DANGER POSED BY ITS DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY. HERMES DID NOT RESPOND BUT CLEARLY AGREED ON THIS POINT, AT LEAST.

4. HERMES SUGGESTED THAT SECRETARY'S LETTER, WITH ITS IMPLICATION THAT THE GUIDELINES DO NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE GUIDANCE, MIGHT LEAD SOME STATES TO QUESTION WHETHER GUIDELINES HAD CONTINUED VALIDITY. I EMPHASIZED THAT THE SECRETARY'S LETTER DID NOT RPT NOT CALL GUIDELINES INTO QUESTION IN ANY WAY. THE GUIDELINES THEM-SELVES PROVIDE FOR SUPPLIER RESTRAINT IN THE EXPORT OF SENSITIVE FACILITIES. DR. ROUGET, ACCOMPANYING HERMES, SUGGESTED THAT HEAVY WATER PLANTS WERE NOT "SENSITIVE EXPORTS" UNDER THE GUIDELINES, BUT HERMES DID NOT PICK UP THIS POINT FOR DISCUSSION.

5. HERMES ASSURED ME THAT GENSCHER WOULD RESPOND AS SOON AS HE HAD CONSIDERED THE SECRETARY'S LETTER.

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HILLENBRAND

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